

## Proclamation Presented

## In Recognition of Safe Boating Week

WHEREAS, Safe Boating Week was started by the North American Safe Boating Campaign in 1957; and began as a small, grassroots outreach program that has evolved into a targeted media effort, which aims at spreading the message of boating safety, and encouraging boater education by producing a variety of safe boating publications intended to enhance and supplement the individual campaigns that take place through groups, associations and organizations across the United States and Canada; and

WHEREAS, Safe Boating Week recognizes that, while recreational boating is fun and enjoyable and we are fortunate that we have sufficient resources to accommodate a wide variety of pleasure boating demands, our waterways can become crowded at times and be a place of chaos and confusion and thus, susceptible to accidents; and

WHEREAS, Safe Boating Week reminds us that on average, 700 people die each year in boating-related accidents in the U.S.; approximately 70% of these are fatalities caused by drowning; and

WHEREAS, Safe Boating Week raise awareness about the importance of life jackets; and reminds us that life jackets prevent potential drowning and are more advanced than life jackets of the past; and

WHEREAS, Safe Boating Week partners include:

- AMERICAN CANOE ASSOCIATION:
- BOAT U.S. FOUNDATION:
- CANADIAN SAFE BOATING COUNCIL;
- NATIONAL SAFE BOATING COUNCIL:
- NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STATE;
- U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS;
- U.S. COAST GUARD;
- BOATING LAW ADMINISTRATORS;
- U.S. COAST GUARD AUXILIARY:
- U.S. POWER SQUADRONS;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, NEIL ABERCROMBIE, Governor, and I, BRIAN SCHATZ, Lieutenant Governor of the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim May 19-25, 2012 as

## "SAFE BOATING WEEK"

in Hawai`i and urge the people of the Aloha State to join us in supporting the goals of the North American Safe Boating Campaign to promote safe boating.

DONE at the State Capitol, in the Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i this first day of May, 2012.

NEIL ABERCROMBIE Governor, State of Hawai'i RRIAN SCHATZ

Lt. Governor, State of Hawai'i